

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Figure 4 is corrected to be properly labeled as “Fig. 4”.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

REMARKS

Summary Of The Office Action & Formalities

Status of Claims

Claims 1-15 are all the claims pending in the application. By this Amendment, Applicant is amending claim 2 and adding new claim 16. No new matter is added.

Additional Fees

Submitted herewith is a Petition for Extension of Time with fee.

Claim to Foreign Priority

Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging the claim to foreign priority and for confirming that the certified copy of the priority document was received.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicant also thanks the Examiner for initialing the references listed on form PTO/SB/08 submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement filed on March 24, 2005.

Drawings

Again, Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging and accepting the drawings filed on March 24, 2005.

Figure 4 of the original drawings as filed was mislabeled as Fig. 2. Applicant is submitting a corrected drawing sheet for this figure.

Specification

The specification is objected to under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, for the reason set forth at pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action.

The Examiner's objection is based on an error in labeling of Fig. 4 as noted above. Further, the Examiner should note that the application as published did not include all four figures filed with application and that are contained in the imaged file wrapper for this application. Further, Fig. 2 (drawing sheet 2) of the application as filed on March 24, 2005 does contain the elements referenced in the specification for this figure.

Claim Rejections - § 112

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, because there is insufficient antecedent basis for the limitation, "the control signals network", in the claim. Applicant is amending the claim to overcome this rejection.

Art Rejections

Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Goodman (US 6,192,399).

Applicant respectfully traverses.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-15 In View Of Goodman (US 6,192,399).

In rejecting claims 1-15 in view of Goodman (US 6,192,399), the grounds of rejection state:

Referring to claim 1, Goodman discloses a system for distribution of audio/video signals (**see Figure 2**) comprising audio/video signal sources (**see Figure 30a and Column 29, Line 35 through Column 20, Line 5 for the system containing multiple video sources suites**) and audio/video signal receivers (**see televisions 154 in Figure 2**).

Goodman also discloses that the system comprises a central processing and multiplexing unit (**see main information interface 200 in Figure 2**).

Goodman also discloses that the system comprises a twisted pair service network for routing audio/video signals derived from sources to the central processing and multiplexing unit (**see Figure 5 for an intermediate UTP network 500**) and a twisted pair distribution network to carry the processed and multiplexed audio/video signals output from the processing and multiplexing unit to the receivers (**see UNIT UTP networks 400 in Figure 5**).

Referring to claim 2, Goodman also discloses a means of inputting control signals that can be routed on the control signals network (**see remote control 834 in Figure 8**).

Referring to claim 3, Goodman also discloses connection means on which signal sources can be connected to send signals and to receive control signals that can be routed on the control signals network (**see wiring block 805 in Figure 8**).

Referring to claim 4, Goodman also discloses including input modulators associated with corresponding connection means to modulate signals to be routed on the service network (**see control modulator 1060 for set-top box 832, where multiple set top box exist in the system (see Figures 8 and 10)**).

Referring to claim 5, Goodman also discloses coaxial cable terminals (**see set top boxes in Figure 8**) on which a coaxial cable leading to a TV receiver can be connected (**see the connection 1092 from set-top box 832 to television 154 in Figure 10**).

Referring to claim 6, Goodman also discloses adapters associated with coaxial terminals to adapt a processed signal output from the distribution network to be routed on a coaxial cable (**see HPF, video demodulator and NTSC modulator in set top box 832 in Figure 8**).

Referring to claim 7, Goodman also discloses multiplexing means to multiplex control signals on the service network and to multiplex the modulated TV signals on the distribution network (**see Column 7, Line 63 through Column 8, Line 26**).

Referring to claim 8, Goodman also discloses a processing unit to process the multiplexed modulated signals output from the service network so as to route them on the distribution network (**see Hub 800 in Figure 8**).

Referring to claim 9, Goodman also discloses processing means for individually processing the modulated signals output from the service network before routing them to multiplexing means (**see media converter 1012 in Figure 10**).

Referring to claim 10, Goodman also discloses multiplexing means to multiplex the control signals output from the service network to reinject them onto the service network (**see wiring block 805 for accepting multiple signals from remote controls 834 and combining the remote control signals into a single output 807 back to hub 800 in Figure 8**).

Referring to claim 11, Goodman also discloses that the control signal input means includes a wave receiver associated with a remote control (**see remote control 834 in Figure 8**).

Referring to claim 12, Goodman also discloses a box that includes input modulators associated with corresponding connection means to modulate signals output from sources (**see NTSC modulator 1068 in Figure 10**), output adapters associated with corresponding coaxial terminals to adapt the signal output from the distribution network (**see output 1088 from wall jack to set top box in Figure 10**), means of inputting control signals that can be routed on the service network (**see remote control 834 in Figure 10**), connection means onto which signal sources can be connected to send video signals (**see again output 1088 from wall jack to set top box in Figure 10**) and to received control signals on the service network (**see low pass filter 1070 in Figure 10**), coaxial cable terminals to which a coaxial cable connecting to a TV receiver can be connected (**see connection 1092 in Figure 10**) and means of connection to the distribution network and the service network (**see HPF 1064 and control modulator 1060 in Figure 10**).

Referring to claim 13, Goodman also discloses that the distribution network and the service network are formed from a single previously installed network of cables consisting of twisted wire pairs (**see Column 4, Lines 8-15 and Figure 2**).

Referring to claim 14, Goodman also discloses that the multiplexing means are also connected to external video signal sources processed later in the processing unit so that they can be transferred onto the distribution network (**see Figure main information interface 200 in Figure 8 and video source suites 3014 connected to video source controller 3010 and NxM switch 3012 in Figure 30a**).

Referring to claim 15, Goodman also discloses that the external sources include antennas and/or satellite terminals (see **Column 30, Lines 15-18**).

Office Action at pages 4-8.

As explained in Applicant's specification, the conventional twisted pairs network (having four pairs of twisted wires) is used to connect sources to the central unit MDS and receivers to the central unit MDS. According to one aspect of the invention, two pairs of the twisted pairs network are used to route different kinds of signal. The first pair is a service pair PS for the source signals and the control signals to the MDS. The second pair is a distribution pair PD for the processed signals from the MDS to the receivers (*see, e.g.,* Applicant's specification at page 3, lines 24-16).

In Goodman, and particularly Fig. 5 of that document, the UTP network 500 does not directly connect the sources to the main information interface 200 and does not directly connect the remote control to the interface 200.

On the other side, the unit UTP network does not directly connect the interface 200 to the receivers (Television, Computer).

Goodman does not teach or suggest dividing the existing twisted pairs network into two different and distinct sub networks for routing different and distinct kinds of signals, these signals being divided in "upward" signals routed to the MDS and "downward" signals routed from the MDS to the receivers. This "splitting" of the global existing network is simply not disclosed or suggested in Goodman. Accordingly, Goodman does not anticipate or render obvious the claimed subject matter for at least this reason.

In view of at least the foregoing differences, the Examiner is kindly requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection and allow the claims to issue.

New Claims

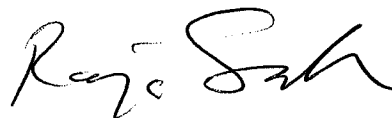
For additional claim coverage merited by the scope of the invention, Applicant is adding new claim 16. Goodman does not teach or suggest the division of the twisted pairs network in the manner recited in claim 16.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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